

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Methods and apparatus are provided for determining a “Squared Tate
3 pairing” for hyperelliptic curves and using the results to support at least one
4 cryptographic process. The improved techniques provide increased efficiency and
5 an alternative method to the conventional method of implementing the Tate
6 pairing for Jacobians of hyperelliptic curves. With the Squared Tate pairing for
7 hyperelliptic curves, one may obtain a significant speed-up over a contemporary
8 implementation of the Tate pairing for hyperelliptic curves. The Squared Tate
9 pairing for hyperelliptic curves can be substituted for the Tate pairing for
10 hyperelliptic curves in any applicable cryptographic application.

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